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With the Compts of

James D. Thompson

A

METRICAL DESCRIPTION

OF A

FANCY BALL

Given at Washington, 9th April, 1858.

DEDICATED TO

MRS. SENATOR GWIN.

Letter von Senator De Haviland

FRANKLIN PHILP,
WASHINGTON,
1858.

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THIS graceful and witty effuſion, evidently regarded as too much of a trifle to be acknowledged by its author, has, by acclaim, been conſidered far too good to be loſt.

The poliſhed mind of its author has evidently been inſpired by the return of the age of hoops, to commemorate the faſcinations of the Belindas of our day, in verſes breathing the ſpirit of the Bard of Twickenham.

A Metrical Glance at the Fancy Ball.

To that gay Capital where congregate
The worſt and wiſeſt of this mighty State;
Where patriot politicians yearly wend,
The Nation's fortunes, and their own, to mend;
Where ſnobbiſh ſcribblers eke the ſcanty dole
By telegraphing lies from pole to pole;
Where bad Hotels impoſe their onerous tax;
And countleſs Jehus ſport untiring hacks;
Where Murder boldly ſtalks, nor cares a ſtraw
For uſeleſs Police, or unuſed Law;
Where ſhrieking Kanſas whirls her frantic arms
To fright the country with her falſe alarms;
Where Gamblers bland with Stateſmen freely mix,
And ſeem ſometimes to make exchange of tricks;

Where Impudence and Pertneſs takes the floor,
While modeſt Merit waits without the door;
Where Party decks the brawling Partiſan
With wreaths and ſpoils,—no matter what the man;
Thither, O Muſe of Faſhion, wing thy flight,
And ſhed the radiance of thy varied light:
Leave thy dear Limbo, in the changing moon,
And on thy newly-patented balloon,—
The ſwift aerial Crinoline,—repair,
To regulate the new vagaries there;
For Lo! amid the night of Faction's din,
A bright idea lights the mind of Gwin,
Bright as the Bow of Promiſe on the cloud,
Where flaſhed the lightning, rolled the thunder loud.
And ſee, reſponſive to her welcome call,
All parties vie to grace her Fancy Ball.

No carking cares of State can enter here,
To damp the ſpirits or repreſs the cheer.
Frowns and annoyance are denied the door,
And Pleaſure rules upon the waxen floor.
No Slavery, but to Beauty, here is ſeen;
Nor Abolition, save of Diſcord's mein.
Chivalric ſway all hearts and minds maintain,
From ſunny Texas up to ſnowy Maine;
And Concord circles, with her flowery band,
All parts and ſections of a happy land.

Come, and with me ſurvey the motley crowd,
Partake the mirth, and join the laughter loud.
Fear not to yield to Pleaſure's ſyren ſpells,
But gladly borrow Folly's cap and bells:
For know,—whate'er may be the general rule,—
'Tis wiſdom's part ſometimes to play the fool;
And motley here you'll find "the only wear,"
With grave and gay, the homely and the fair.

Appareled thus, in form and ſpirit, now
To the bland Hoſteſs[1] make your grateful bow—
Not California's produce would content
The large abundance of her kind intent!
Nor California's boundleſs mines command
The generous hoſpitality her hand
Would ſcatter laviſhly, with liberal power,
To heap the gladneſs of the feſtive hour!
In regal guiſe, nor leſs with royal port,
She ſmiles ſweet welcome to her gathering Court,—
The frolic ſubjects of a ſportive Queen,
Whoſe kindneſs rules the gay, fantaſtic ſcene.
Cloſe by her ſide, in form and ſtature great,
As well becomes a pillar of the State,
With ready tact and all-attractive art,
The good Amphitryon plays his graceful part;

[1] Mrs. Senator Gwin.

While near, the daughter of the houſe, arrayed
In the rich coſtume of a Grecian maid,
With charming frankneſs, and with winning grace,
Reflects the kindneſs of the mother's face;
While yonder Page, in ſplendid Court array,
Beſpeaks the triumphs of a future day.

Our Pegaſus is but a ſorry nag;
He ſtumbles oft times, and perchance will flag:
To mount Parnaſſus is but up-hill work,
Although one labor like a very Turk.
We cannot, therefore, hope to bring in line
One half the characters that claim our rhyme;
And ſo—although too like the ſtupid trick
Of that wiſeacre who produced a brick
As ſpecimen of his houſe—we're yet compelled
To give mere patterns of the things beheld;
And group together thoſe who well might claim
A ſpecial place upon this roll of fame.
All thoſe omitted we would but remind
That Cato's image once was left behind.
Our catalogue's not expected to be right,
But 'tis the beſt that we can now indite.
It may be meagre, and not underſtood;
But think, at leaſt, that the intent is good.

Now gaze we round, to note, with dazzled een,
The rich enſemble of the brilliant ſcene;

Where every clime, and well nigh every age,
Send their gay delegates to crowd the ſtage;
Where myriad hues their gorgeous ſplendor lend,
And Art and Learning Beauty's ſteps attend,
To add freſh luſtre to the radiant air,
By nature laviſhed on Columbia's fair.
How rich the medley, and how gay the throng!
Greek meets with Greek—Turk puſhes Turk along;
Knights pair with Gipſies—Monks with ſtately Dames;
The Peaſant Girl[2] the gallant Courtier claims;
The whittling Yankee,[3] all intent on gain,
Mates ſtrangely with the azure blood of Spain.[4]
Here the gay Contadina's[5] eyes will thrill;
There the Vivandiere[6] your heart will fill
With thoughts more maddening than the joyous wine,
Which pours its gladneſs from her native vine.
There meekly moves the placid Quaker;[7] here
Stalks Caledonia's gallant Mountaineer.[8]
There "Cœur de Lion"[9] winks at jovial "Tuck,"[10]
A Fortune-Teller,[11] here, will give your luck.

But mark attentively yon gathering crowd!
There cluſter thoſe of whom the country's proud;

[2] Miss Ouseley.
[3] Mr. E. Baylor of Louisiana.
[4] Mrs. Bowlin.
[5] Mrs. Senator Thompson.
[6] Miss Martin.
[7] Mr. Irving.
[8] Mr. Cameron.
[9] Major De Havilland.
[10] Mr. Odo Russell.
[11] Mrs. Philips.

Hiſtoric names and words of preſent power,
Who rule the fortunes of the paſſing hour.
Lo! in the centre, he who calmly bears,
Upon that ſnowy head, the nation's cares,
The people's choſen "Chieftain,"[12] simply great,
In that proud name, beyond imperial ſtate!
Soldiers and Senators of large renown,
With Jack Tars,[13] Lawyers, Editor, and Clown,
Around him gather, a promiſcuous troop;
There ſubtle Diplomats together group.
But now in various garb they gaily go,
From rich Court coſtumes down to Pierrot.[14]
Among them glitters, with his gallant ſuite,
The brave Commander[15] of the Turkiſh fleet;
From whoſe ſurroundings you may quickly ſcan
The novel era of the Ottoman;
No more a rude barbarian is he prized,
But claims his place among the civilized.

But this is not a time to moralize;
The buzz and glitter claim our ears and eyes.
We but attempt the merit of the dog,
Fidelity, in this our catalogue.
Exceptis excipiendis, as they say,
In Latin rather barbarous, by the way.

[12] The President.
[13] Mr. John G. Clarke.
[14] M. le Vicomte de Treilhard, M. Dollfus, M. Guiot, M. Gau.
[15] The Turkish Admiral.

Of "Spaniſh Ladies,"[16] e'en the names, I wiſt,
Would be as long as Leporello's liſt.
Of "Spaniſh Cavaliers,"[17] there's a goodly ſtore;
And two Rancheros,[18] and a Matador.[19]
"Italian Peaſants" wander without fear,
Though "Fra Diavolo"[20] is hovering near;
And one there was whoſe eyes would murder more
Than that dark "Bravo"[21] from her native ſhore.
Sly "Gipſies"[22] lurk, with larceny in their eye,
Though pilfering hearts is not a felony;
As things of value they are not eſteemed—
A mere rag currency that's ne'er redeemed.
So give fair play to "Bowlin"[23] and to "Beach,"[24]
And let them ſteal—we'll promiſe not to peach.

No more digreſſion—let us go right on,
Or e'en this meagre liſt will ne'er be done.

See yonder Poliſh Maid,[25] her graceful bearing
Is yet more charming than the dreſs ſhe's wearing,
Though that, in courtly circles, erſt has won
The proper praiſe of taſte from every one.

[16] Mrs. Senator Hale, Mrs. H. F. Clarke, Mrs. Luke Lea, Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs. George Sanders.
[17] Lieut. Richmond Aulick, and Mr. Smith.
[18] Mr. Trowbridge.
[19] Hon. John Cochrane.
[20] Mr. Nicholson.
[21] Mr. Parkinson.
[22] Miss Craig.
[23] Miss Bowlin.
[24] Miss Beach.
[25] Miss Legaré.

In contraſt ſtrong as that of night and day,
Lo! "Pompadour,"[26] and "Miſtreſs Popinjay;"[27]
The "Druid Prieſteſs,"[28] and the bright "De Stael;"[29]
Yon tiny Fairy,[30] and that Gallant tall
(Though "Harney's" "road to Heaven"* be rather rough,
The daſhing ſoldier's made of the right ſtuff);
"Queen Iſabella,"[31] and "Antipholus;"[32]
Dark "Ravenſwood,"[33] with bold "Sir Lucius,"[34]
But no Lucia; and, in contact silly,
See "Falſtaff"[35] huge, and the ſweet "Milk-Maid Milly."[36]

But mark where, ſtrayed from ſome bright ſphere afar,
With mildeſt luſtre, ſhines the "Morning Star!"[37]
Endowed with woman's beſt and deareſt grace,
A ſoul ſeen ſparkling through a radiant face,
That "Ready" ſmile the harbinger will be
Of dawning love in all that look on thee!
In kindred lovelineſs, with richer beams,
The bright "Aurora"[38] on our senses gleams;
Nor yields to that fair daughter of the Morn,
Whom Guido ſaw on car triumphal borne.

[26] Miss Porter.
[27] Mrs. Powell.
[28] Mrs. Major Sutherland.
[29] Mrs. Senator Jefferson Davis.
[30] Miss Withers.
[31] Mrs. G. H. Evans.
[32] Mr. A. H. Evans, and Mr. Birney.
[33] Mr. Th. C. Cox.
[34] Mr. John Savage.
[35] Commander Nelson.
[36] Miss Winder.
[37] Miss Ready.
[38] Mrs. Senator Douglas.

* A punishment resorted to by this distinguished officer during the Florida war, is said to have been thus designated.

Amid ſuch luminous ſplendor who could fail
To greet the "Sunriſe"[39] with a joyous "Hail!"

Here "Engliſh Hunters"[40] run their game to earth,
And ſtrike the "Key" note of their jovial mirth;
There the glib "Downing"[41] ſeeks his ranks to fill,
And proffers bounty-lands and wives at will
(When, Brigham Young defunct, his houſehold chattels
Are at the mercy of the God of Battles);
While bright-haired "Folly"[42] ſhakes her cap and bells,
To find how faſt her liſt of votaries ſwells.
Yon "Maid of Athens,"[43] if I rightly deem,
Will ſoon among her followers be ſeen;
For, though ſhe boaſts that proud and glorious name,
"Above all Roman and all Grecian fame,"
Grace, youth, and beauty, all combine to warn,
Not long by her will that great name be borne.

In cloſeſt ſecrecy, to all unknown,
That "Arab Maiden"[44] wanders ſtill alone,
Peers through her mantle with a curious eye,
And keenly notes the various paſſers-by;
While, ſudden burſting from a liſtening throng,
With whittling tool, and ſharper cutting tongue,

[39] Miss Hale.
[40] Messrs. P. Barton Key, D. Bradford, and Dr. W. H. Berry.
[41] Mr. Poore.
[42] The Misses Jennie Tyler and Winder.
[43] Miss Washington.
[44] Mrs. B. L. S. Bodichon.

Slick "Swipes," with facile pertneſs, jogs along
To where yon "Syren" [45] breathes her ſilent ſong—
That fluent muſic, that melodious grace,
Which guide the foot and animate the face.
The golden coins which bind her ſilken hair,
Are far leſs precious than her beauty rare.

Lo! "Clingman," [46] from the *coming* century borne!
Its "glaſs of faſhion," and its "mould of form."
Foreign Relations may admit his ſkill,
But in domeſtic he is minus ſtill.
See faintly "Katherine," [47] in her brilliant youth,
When fickle Harry won her plighted truth.
To her may bitter fortune ne'er impart
The ſad experience of a waſted heart.
There "Grandiſon," [48] with antiquated air,
Bows courtly compliments to every fair;
And yonder "Walker" ſhows, with graceful eaſe,
The beau-ideal of a "French Marquiſe;" [49]
While here, by proud hereditary right,
Our "Starry Banner" [50] floats in living light.
There "La Dame Blanche" [51] the ſable "Denmark" [52]
meets;
Here courtly "Buckingham" [53] "Ophelia" [54] greets;

[45] Mrs. Haywood.
[46] Hon. Mr. Clingman.
[47] Miss Mechlin.
[48] Mr. J. Buchanan Henry.
[49] Miss Mary Walker.
[50] Mrs. Pendleton.
[51] Miss Greenhow.
[52]
[53] Mr. Banks.
[54] Miss Cheatham.

And "Winter"[55] ſhows us that ſometimes her ſnows
Fall ſoft as leaflets of the ſummer roſe.

And ſee, without regard to age or ſtation,
A curious group, made up of every nation,
Beſides ſuch garbs as fancy may deviſe
To give groteſque or pictureſque surprise.
The "Nine of Diamonds,"[56] and the "Queen of May,"[57]
And the ſweet Queen of Flowers, the charming Ray;[58]
"Midnight,"[59] and "Night,"[60] and "Bright Night,"[61] and
what not;
And of "White Ladies"[62] a delightful lot;
And one among them we might juſtly praiſe
As "tyrannouſly pretty"—(Browning's phraſe);
The "Earl of Leiceſter;"[63] ſundry "Quakereſſes;"[64]
All ſorts of "Peaſant Girls,"[65] with flowing treſſes,
Well-rounded ankles, and enchanting dreſſes;
"King Charles the Second,"[66] with his curling hair;
A tempting "Bar-Maid,"[67] and a fierce "Corſair;"[68]
"Vandyke,"[69] and "Rubens;"[70] "King of Pruſſia,"[71] too;
The "Lone Star,"[72] and a "Native of Lew Chew;"[73]

[55] The Misses Beale and Booth.
[56] Mr. Manley, British Legation.
[57] Miss Bascom.
[58] Miss Ray.
[59] Mrs. Senator Pugh.
[60] Miss Scott.
[61] Miss Bradley.
[62] Mrs. Butler and Miss Greenhow.
[63] Hon. Charles L. Scott.
[64] Mrs. Belser, and Miss Wetherell.
[65] Miss Smith, Miss Clayton, Miss Luke Lea, Miss Josie Underwood, and Mrs. Ward.
[66] Mr. Bridges.
[67] Miss Morgan.
[68] Mr. Craig.
[69] Mr. M. B. Brady.
[70] Mr. C. King.
[71] Col. Magruder.
[72] Hon. Mr. Underwood.
[73] Lieut. Hammond.

A Knight, in ſpangles and a helm of tin;[74]
A "Country Gentleman,"[75] and "Harlequin,"[76]
An "Ellen Douglaſs,"[77] whom, to follow, muſt
Be to her Roland "hope and Heaven and truſt;"*
The "Maid of Saragoſſa;"[78] "Claude Melnotte;"[79]
A ſcalloped "Palmer,"[80] and a "Monkiſh Sot,"
The "Lady Charlotte Berkeley;"[81] "Saint Pierre;"[82]
While near them, ſee, "La Belle Cantiniere"[83]
Diſpenſes her intoxicating laugh,
Which many a Peter† would be glad to quaff!
A "Maid of Athens,"[84]—ſhe's a duplicate,
And bears ſo well her Oriental ſtate,
There's many a gallant quite content to go
The tender "Zoé mou ſas agapo."
But here is ſomething curious to be ſeen,
In ſtartling contraſt to the crinoline;
"Saya y manta,"[85] it is called—Peruvian—
And quite improper, and ante-diluvian;
As queer and ſhocking as the ſtrange beſtriding
The Liman dames exhibit in their riding.
For thoſe who are too matter of fact we add,
We do but jeſt,—the dreſs is not ſo bad;

[74] Lt. Thomas Wilson.
[75] Mr. J. P. Levy.
[76]
[77]
[78] Miss Sue Johnson.
[79] Mr. J. D. Hoover.
[80]
[81] Miss Semmes.
[82] Hon. Anson Burlingame.
[83] Mrs. Senator Thompson.
[84] Miss Boyle.
[85] Mrs. Bridges.

* See Lady of the Lake.

† See L'Etoile du Nord, Act 2, Scene 9.

But on the contrary, deſpite our fling,
'Tis, for a handſome figure, juſt the thing.

But we digreſs, and muſt retrace our way
"A nos moutons," as writeth Rabelais.
We note "Count Winterſen,"[86]—yon "Fillibuſter"[87]
Muſt find his place amid this cluſter,—
A handſome "Houſekeeper,"[88] whoſe "humble home"
You'd find ſo "ſweet" you would not wiſh to roam;
"Egyptian Soldier,"[89] and a "Chinaman;"[90]
"Albanian Chief;"[91] "Don Cæſar de Bazan;"[92]
A Court Belle, time of Henry of Navarre;[93]
The "Knight of Gwynne,"[94] at a worſe Court, by far;
A gay "Ranchero," from Brazilian plains;
A part of Preſident Monroe's[95] remains:
That is, the very dreſs and ſword he had,
When to the Court of France accredited;
And apropos to this, we will go on
To name with reverence "Lady Waſhington."[96]
'Tis ſcarcely right to note with the ſame pen,
A "Malteſe Boatman,"[97] ſundry "Highlandmen"[98]
(From the true Cameron Tartan, bran and braw,
To play-houſe coſtumes, ſcarcely worth a pſhaw);

[86] Mr. G. T. Adams.
[87] Mr. S. W. Gillet.
[88] Mrs. Greenhow.
[89] Mr. H. Ledyard.
[90] Lieut. Hammond.
[91] Mr. R. B. Bayard.
[92] Major W. W. Ruſſell.
[93] Madame de Stœckl.
[94] Lieut. Mowry, of Arizona.
[95] Mr. Kingman.
[96] Mrs. Steadman.
[97] Mr. Rodgers.
[98] Mayor Magruder, Major Sutherland, and Mr. Shaw.

Two "Oxford Men,"[99] in academic gown;
And one male Savage, done up very brown;
And ſundry "Antique Dames,"[100] whoſe name and ſtation
Are truly worthy of commemoration,
But that the Muſe, a ſtubborn, wilful jade,
And ſomewhat jealous, will refuſe her aid;
However, ſhe's but muliſh, yet might paſs
For beaſt more ſtupid if ſhe named not "Caſs."[101]

"Lo! the poor Indian!"[102]—"poor, indeed! nay, come,
Why, that's the richeſt coſtume in the room!
It made, pray let me tell you, a commotion
At ſome great ball on t'other ſide the ocean."
Imported praiſe is like imported ſtuff,
It brings its price,—the home-made is too rough;
But ſtill this coſtume richly merits praiſe;
The wearer would, although ſhe dreſſed in baize!
"Why, here's another—La! ſhe makes me ſtart,
She is ſo like an Indian! ſee the part
Of her dark hair,—'tis painted red and blue,—
The ſpot upon her forehead,—ſhe's a Sioux;
Her dreſs is perfect, and the knowing tell
That it was made by a Dacotah belle."
Ah, "Minnehaha!"[103] there be thoſe who ſay
There is combined beneath that blanket gay,

[99] Messrs. Hughes and Phillips.
[100]
[101] Miss Cass.
[102] Mrs. Berg.
[103] Mrs. Rogers.

Of wit and beauty, and all woman's pride,
Enough to furniſh richly a whole tribe!

Pray, Monſieur "Cent-Garde,"[104] ſee you take good heed,
Or that ſtout cuiraſs will not ſerve your need;
For triple ſteel is not ſufficient arms
Againſt the witchery of yon Peaſant's[105] charms;
Call to your aid the Goddeſs of the Free,
And pay your homage to ſweet "Liberty;"[106]
Under that charming banner, well I wiſt,
"Prince Rupert"[107] would not heſitate to 'liſt.

Buoyant, and freſh, and fair, and full of grace,
"As Eve with nature's day-break on her face," *
Are thoſe two ſiſters of the ſtoried name,
The ſaddeſt on the rolls of Britiſh fame.

See, where, in vain illuſion, ſweetly moves
That ſoft "Diana"[108] from the weſtern groves,
But ſheds around her ſuch a roſeate light,
"That birds would ſing, and think it were *not night*."

Lo! little "Riding Hood,"[109] with artleſs grace,
Reveals the ſweetneſs of her childiſh face;

[104] Dr. Maury.
[105] Miss G. Parker.
[106] Miss Parker.
[107] Dr. Raney.
[108]
[109] The Mrs. Sickles and Hughes.

* Mrs. Browning.

And if the wolf's not driven from the door,
She knows preciſely how to treat a *bore*;
And they who "pull the bobbin, lift the latch,"
Will find a hoſteſs very hard to match!

Mark how the grace that gilds an honored name
Gives a ſtrange zeſt to that loquacious dame,
Whoſe ready tongue, and eaſy-blundering wit,
Provoke freſh uproar at each happy hit!
Note how her humour into ſtrange grimace
Tempts the ſmooth meekneſs of yon "Quaker's"[110] face.
You'd ſcarcely gueſs, beneath that cap ſo prim,
Which decks, not hides, the handſome head within,
There lurks a wit as keen, for fools to feel,
As is her name to ſharpen blunted ſteel.
But denſer grows the crowd round "Partington,"[111]
'Twere vain to try to name them one by one.
Among them, he[112] whose quick and genial mind
By "diplomatic napkin's" * ne'er confined;
And ſhe[113] whoſe ſweet and ever-beaming ſmile
Is ne'er aſſumed in diplomatic guile;
There, too, the Knight of the Myſterious Miſſion[114]
(For e'en the preſs don't know his true poſition):
As he "annexed" his gracious Lady[115] here,
'Tis hoped he won't oppoſe our faſt career.

[110] Mrs. Major Emory.
[111] Mrs. Senator Clay.
[112] Lord Napier.
[113] Lady Napier.
[114] Sir William Gore Ouseley, K. C. B.
[115] Lady Ouseley.

* Vide Speech of Lord Napier (at St. George's Dinner, N. Y., 1857.).

But turn we now to take a parting glance:
We cannot note the Supper, or the Dance,
Although the banquet richly might avail
To ſwell the marvels of a fairy tale.
'Tis drawing near the gray and myſtic hour
When elves and goblins flit and loſe their power;
So turn we, ere ſhe chance to fade away,
Before the brightneſs of approaching day,
Where proud "Titania"[116] trips with ſpritely feet,
And ſmiles in triumph o'er the heart of "Keitt;"[117]
Who would not don, for that ſweet ſmile ſhe wears,
The longeſt ears that Donkey ever bears!

But pauſe we here—in vain my Muſe would try
To paint the various ſhapes that meet the eye—
Turn where you may, and gaze where'er you will,
The gorgeous combination changes ſtill;
A rich kaleidoſcope of dazzling forms
Enchants the eye, and the rapt ſenſes warms;
Till, pained with beauty, the full heart, oppreſſed,
Demands the kind relief of nature—reſt.

[116] Miss Withers.

[117] Hon. L. M. Keitt.

NOTES.

NOTES.

THE Poem was originally written for "THE STAR," of Waſhington.

The deſcription of coſtumes is taken from the "Weekly States" of April 17, 1858, and other papers.

> "*The*" "Capital had gathered then
> Her beauty and her chivalry, and bright
> The lamps ſhone o'er fair women and brave men;
> Hundreds of hearts beat happily; and, when
> Muſic aroſe with its voluptuous ſwell,
> Soft eyes look'd love to eyes which ſpake again,
> And all went merry as a marriage bell."

Some of the happieſt coſtumes of the evening were unavoidably omitted in the Poem; thoſe, for inſtance, of MR. E. H. WRIGHT, of New Jerſey, whoſe elegantly formed legs diſplayed to advantage in the dreſs of a *Bulgarian Peasant*, will not ſoon be forgotten by those having an eye for form: and

MR. W. BODISCO, of the Ruſſian Legation, in the appropriate and elegant coſtume of a *Muscovite Postillion*.

1.

MRS. GWIN received her gueſts with a courteous affability that ſet them at eaſe at once, and removed the embarraſſment naturally attendant on entering lighted ſaloons in fancy dreſs. Her dreſs was that of *the queen of Louis Quatorze*, compoſed of a ſkirt of white *moire antique*, trimmed with flounces of *pointe d'aquille;* bodice of the dreſs trimmed with lace to match flounces; train of cherry ſatin, trimmed with a ruche of white ſatin; coiffure of the time of Louis XIV., which added to the fine effect of the coſtume, ſo admirably adapted to the noble figure of the lady-like hoſteſs.

MISS GWIN, who aided in "doing the honors," looked charmingly, in the costume of a *Greek Girl*. White ſatin ſkirt and full white ſatin pantalettes; boots of ſilver and blue ſatin. Over the white ſatin ſkirt, which is trimmed with ſtrips of cherry ſatin, was a ſkirt of tulle trimmed with ſilver. Tunic and

bodice of blue ſatin, trimmed with ſilver and blue ſatin. Necklace of pearls. Hair plaited with pearls, and a Greek cap of blue and white ſatin, trimmed with ſilver and two ſilver taſſels. It was a bewitching coſtume, and charmingly worn.

Miss Carrie Gwin was dreſſed as a *Page;* white ſatin trowſers, full to the knee; long ſtockings of ſilk; boots of black; coat of maroon velvet, trimmed with gold; cap of velvet and gold, with white plumes.

Senator Gwin, in citizen's dreſs, was ubiquitous, and unceaſing in his endeavors to promote the enjoyment and amuſement of his gueſts, exhibiting a genuine California hospitality.

2.

Miss Ousley, an *Italian Peasant Girl.*

"A lovely being, ſcarcely formed or moulded,
A roſe with all its ſweeteſt leaves yet folded."

3.

Mr. E. Baylor, of Louisiana, came as *Hezekiah Swipes,* from Vermont, in ra'al Down-eaſt ſtyle, and kept a whittlin' just as tho' he was tu hum.

4.

Mrs. Bowlin, of St. Louis, *Spanish Duchess,* an effective and brilliant coſtume.

5.

Mrs. Senator Thompson, of New Jerſey, as the "*Belle Cantiniere,*" in "L'Etoile du Nord," was univerſally admired. Her appearance eaſily explains the conquest of a Throne from the rough Peter, by her prototype.

6.

Miss Martin, a *Vivandiere.*

7.

Mr. Richard Irving, *A Male Quaker.*

8.

Mr. Cameron, in his own Tartan.

9 and 10.

Major J. De Havilland, late U. S. Army, as *Cœur de Lion;* O. Russell, Eſq., Britiſh Legation, as *Friar Tuck;* and Don T. Moreno, Spaniſh Legation, as *Robin Hood*—forming a group from "Ivanhoe." "Major De Havilland wearing a veritable ſuit of maſſive ſteel, which became his ſtalwart frame as though it were clothed in the ſummer coſtume of our own times," as he moved with eaſe through the maze of the dance, "towering as a monarch" over his frolick ſubjects. Mr. Ruſſell was capitally dreſſed as Friar Tuck, and ſuſtained his part with jovial decorum, as became that rollicking anchorite. And Mr. Moreno looked the free foreſter to perfection. This group was conſidered the moſt ſucceſsful among the male coſtumes of the evening.

11.

Mrs. Phillips, of Alabama.

12.

The President wore a citizen's dreſs.

13.

Mr. John G. Clarke, in a Sailor's coſtume. His open, honeſt countenance admirably ſuited the character of the frank tar.

14.

M. Le Vicomte de Treilhard, Firſt Secretary of the French Legation, ſported a *Pierrot's* dreſs, trimmed with pink ſatin.

M. Dollfus, Secretary of the French Legation, *Pierrot,* trimmed with blue ſatin.

M. Gau, of the Pruſſian Legation, *Pierrot,* trimmed with purple ſatin.

M. Guiot, Chancelier of the French Legation, *Pierrot,* trimmed with yellow ſatin. A merry *quartette* did theſe gentlemen form.

15.

The Turkiſh officers were preſent *en grande tenue*, the coſtume of the Admiral almoſt hidden by heavy gold embroidery. M. Oscanyan, their dragoman, wore a daſhing Suliote coſtume.

16.

Mrs. Senator Hale, of New Hampſhire, as a *Spanish Duenna*, attracted much admiration ; the high comb and veil giving a fine effect to her expreſſive features.

Mrs. Horace F. Clark, a *Spanish Lady*. Perfect !

Mrs. Luke Lea, a *Spanish Lady*—a moſt elegant and effective dreſs.

Mrs. Nicholson, a *Spanish Lady*.

Mrs. George Sanders, of New York, a *Spanish Lady*, in ſatin and lace, with high comb and mantilla.

Miss Luke Lea, a *Spanish Peasant Girl*. As captivating as Zerlina !

17.

Lt. Richmond Aulick, U. S. N., as a *Spanish Student*.

Mr. Smith, of Waſhington, a *Spanish Cavalier* of the court of Philip II.

18.

Mr. Trowbridge, of Louiſiana, a *Ranchero*.

Don E. de Muruaga y Vildósola, *Ranchero*. Ready to "laſſo" the hearts of the daughters of America.

19.

Hon. John Cochrane, of New York, a *Matador*, and a moſt gallant-looking one.

20.

Mr. Nicholson, *Fra Diavolo*.

21.

Mr. Parkinson, of New York, *Italian Bravo.*

22.

Miss Craig, of Washington, *Gipsey Girl.*

23.

Miss Bowlin, of St. Louis, *Jenny the Gipsey.*

24.

Miss Beach, of Hartford, a *Gipsey*, and a most bewitching one at that, dressed with great taste, and creating a decided sensation.

25.

Miss Legaré, *Polish Maid.* The costume alluded to was, however, worn by

Mlle. de Montholon. A dress designed, originally, for a Fancy Ball at the Tuilleries, by Her Majesty the Empress Eugenie.

26.

Miss Porter, of Lancaster, Pa., *Madame Pompadour.*

27.

Mrs. Powell, *Mrs. Popinjay.*

28.

Mrs. Major Sutherland, of Washington, *Norma;* and with such a priestess, who would not worship at a Druidical altar?

29.

Mrs. Senator Davis, as *Madame De Stael,* wore the moſt correct hiſtorical coſtume of the evening, and very becoming it was. Necker himſelf would have recognized the mind, as well as the coſtume, of his daughter.

30.

Miss Withers, as *Titania,* caused many a "Mid Summer Night's Dream."

31.

Mrs. A. H. Evans, of Texas, as *Isabella, Queen of Spain,* wore a robe of royal blue velvet, trimmed with white ermine and gold lace, with flowing regal ſleeves and cape to correſpond. On her Catholic Majeſty's head was the crown of Spain, ſtudded with jewels, from beneath which hung a profuſion of dark rich curls. The long train, as it ſwept by, attracted general admiration.

32.

Mr. Alex. H. Evans, of Texas, as *Antipholus of Syracuse* (in the Comedy of Errors), was dreſſed in a ſcarlet velvet jacket and breeches, puffed with blue ſilk and trimmed with gold lace; cap, feathers, and cape to correſpond. This was one of the moſt becoming and brilliant dreſſes in the room.

Mr. Birney, *Antipholus of Ephesus.*

33.

Mr. Thomas C. Cox, of Georgetown, *Edgar of Ravenswood,* a ſhowy coſtume, worn with great eaſe and grace.

34.

Mr. John Savage, of Waſhington, *Sir Lucius O'Trigger.*

35.

Commander Nelson, U. S. Navy.

36.

Miss Winder, *Milly*, the "Maid with the Milking Pail."

37.

Miss Ready, of Tenneſſee, beamed brightly as the *Morning Star*, and was pronounced by a veteran judge of beauty the moſt attractive young lady at the ball.

38.

Mrs. Senator Douglas, of Illinois, as *Aurora*, was decidedly *la Belle du bal*, and elicited univerſal admiration.

"Her preſence was as glorious as her ſtate;
Her beauty of that overpowering kind,
Whoſe face deſcription only would abate:
I'd rather leave it much to your own mind
Than leſſen it by what I could relate
Of form and features: it would ſtrike you blind
Could I do juſtice to the full detail—
So (luckily for both) my phraſes fail."

39.

Miss Hale, of New Hampſhire, as *Sunrise*, ſcattered bright and joyous glances wherever she moved.

"I marvel not, O Sun! that unto thee,
In adoration, man should bow the knee
And pour the prayer of mingled joy and love."

40.

P. Barton Key, Esq., of Waſhington, an *English Hunter*.

D. Bradford, *English Hunting Dress*.

Hon. I. T. Hatch, New York, *Huntsman*.

Dr. William H. Berry, of Waſhington, *an English Hunter;* and a moſt complete coſtume it was, in every part.

41.

Mr. Poore, of Maſſachuſetts, *the Merry Monarch*, and, later in the evening, as *Major Jack Downing*, enliſting for the Utah army.

42.

Miss Jennie Tyler, of Waſhington, looked charmingly as *Folly*.

Miss Winder, of Waſhington, was a bewitching repreſentative of *Folly*, and was justly admired.

"Whom to call
Pretty were but to give a feeble notion
Of many charms in her as natural
As ſweetneſs to the flower or ſalt to ocean."

43.

Miss Washington, *Maid of Athens*.

44.

Mrs. B. L. S. Bodichon (*née* Miss Barbara Leigh Smith, daughter of Benjamin Smith, Esq., late M. P. for Norwich), *Arab Maiden*, certainly one of the beſt ſuſtained characters in the room.

45.

Mrs. Haywood, *a Syren*.

46.

Hon. Mr. Clingman, of North Carolina, as a *Gentleman of the 20th Century*.

47.

Miss Mechlin, of Waſhington, as *Catharine of Aragon*, looked magnificently.

"She in ſooth,
Poſſeſsed an air and grace by no means common;
Her ſtature tall—I hate a dumpy woman."

48.

Mr. J. Buchanan Henry, as *Sir Charles Grandison.*

49.

Miss Mary Walker, of Waſhington, as a *French Marchioness,* dreſſed in the elaborate Court coſtume of Verſailles, with hair powdered, and elegant lace, was one of the moſt charming and noticeable ladies preſent, and elicited general admiration.

50.

Mrs. Pendleton, of Cincinnati, the *Star Spangled Banner.*

51.

Miss Greenhow, of Waſhington, appeared to great advantage as the *White Lady of Avenel.*

53.

Mr. Banks, of Virginia, the *Duke of Buckingham,* an attractive and daſhing coſtume.

54.

Miss Cheatham, *Ophelia*—a moſt becoming coſtume, admirably adapted to the wearer's charms.

55.

Miss Beale, *Winter.*

Miss Booth, Stonington, Conn., *Winter.*

56.

H. Manley, Esq., Attaché of the Britiſh legation, appeared as the *Nine of Diamonds*—a trump card.

57.

Miss Bascom, of Kentucky, looked charmingly as *Queen of May.*

58.

Miss Ray, *Queen of Flowers.*

59.

Mrs. Senator Pugh, of Ohio, repreſented *Night* with great effect, as "ſhe walked in beauty."

60.

Miss Scott, of Baltimore, as *Night.*

61.

Miss Bradley, of Waſhington, appeared as a *Bright Night*—

"Unveiled her peerleſs night,
And o'er the dark her ſilver mantle flew."

62.

Mrs. Butler, of South Carolina, *White Lady of Avenel.*

63.

Hon. Chas. L. Scott, of California, *Earl of Leicester.*

64.

Mrs. Belser, *Hannah Prim,* of the Society of Friends.

Miss Wetherell, a *Quakeress* of moſt demure and faſcinating appearance.

65.

Miss Smith, of Washington, as a *Swiss Peasantess*, looked charmingly, as did her guest,

Mrs. Ward, *Paysanne.*

Miss Josie Underwood appeared as a *French Peasant Girl*, in short white dress, trimmed with red, white and blue, fancy boots, a little hat on one side of her head, long black curls over her neck and shoulders.

66.

Mr. Bridges, California, *English Court Dress* of Charles II.'s reign.

67.

Miss Morgan, *English Bar-Maid*, of the olden time.

68.

Mr. Craig, a *Corsair.*

69.

Mr. M. B. Brady, of New York, looked magnificently as *Vandyke*, in the court dress of his time; a most appropriate costume for an artist.

70.

Mr. C. King, *Rubens.*

71.

Col. Magruder, *King of Prussia.*

72.

Hon. Mr. Underwood, *the Lone Star.*

73.

Lieut. Hammond, *Native of Lew Chew.*

74.

Lt. Thomas Wilson, a *Knight.*

75.

Mr. J. P. Levy, of Washington, an *English Country Gentleman* of the olden time.

78.

Miss Sue Johnson, *Maid of Saragossa.*

79.

Mr. J. D. Hoover, *Claude Melnotte.*

81.

Miss Semmes, of Washington, *Lady Charlotte Berkeley,* a capital and most becoming historical costume.

82.

Hon. Anson Burlingame, of Massachusetts, *Julian St. Pierre*—a most becoming costume, gallantly worn.

83.

Mrs. Senator Thompson, of New Jersey, as the *Belle Cantiniere,*" in L'Etoile du Nord," was universally admired.

84.

Miss Boyle, *Maid of Athens.*

85.

Mrs. Bridges, in Peruvian Dreſs,—*Saya y Manta.*

86.

J. T. Adams, of Waſhington, *Count Wintersen.*

87.

Mr. S. W. Gillett, of Waſhington, was a moſt faſcinating *Fillibuster*, and wore one of the moſt complete and harmonious coſtumes at the ball.

88.

Mrs. Greenhow, of Waſhington, was a moſt comely *Housekeeper of the Old School;* and although the coſtume was not as ſhowy as ſome, yet the *esprit* of the wearer made her "glorious as a diamond richly ſet."

89.

Mr. Henry Ledyard, of Michigan, ſported a genuine *Egyptian Uniform*, of the pattern worn by the troops of Mahomet Ali.

90.

Lieut. Hammond, U. S. N., *Chinese.*

91.

Mr. Bayard, of Waſhington, *Albanian Chief.*

92.

Major Russell, *Don Cæsar de Bazan.*

93.

Madame de Stœkel, as a *Lady of the Court of Henri Quatre*, with high standing ruff, appeared magnificently, and attracted general admiration.

94.

Lieut. Mowry, of Arizona, *The Knight of Gwynne at Court.*

95.

Mr. Kingman, of Washington, the respected Doyen of the "world of letters," wore a *Court Dress*, which belonged to and was originally worn by President Monroe.

96.

Mrs. Steadman, as *Lady Washington*, not unworthily represented that honored name.

97.

Mr. Rogers, a *Maltese Boatman.*

98.

Mayor Magruder, of Washington, a *Highlander*, was a fine representative of "Bonnie Scotland." Among his clansmen was Mr. H. W. Munder, in full Highland garb.

Major Sutherland, *Highland Chief.*

Mr. Shaw, of the New York Herald, *Rob Roy McGregor.*

99.

Mr. Hughes, of Virginia, an *Oxford Student*, wore his academical cap and gown with learned dignity.

Mr. Phillips, *Oxford Student.*

101.

Miss Cass, of Michigan, was dressed with great taste and elegance, as a *French Marchioness.*

102.

Mrs. Berg, of New York, *Indian Princess.* This was, perhaps, the most perfect costume worn, and everything about it was in keeping.

103.

Mrs. Rogers, *Minnehaha*, a beautiful Sioux coſtume, worn with graceful eaſe.

104.

Dr. Maury, one of the *Cent Gardes* who are the defence and ornament of the preſent French Court.

105 and 106.

Miss G. Parker, as a *Peasant Girl*, was charmingly dreſsed.

Miss Parker, of Waſhington, *Liberty*, and a glorious-looking Goddeſs she made.

107.

Dr. Raney, of South America, wore a fine dreſs as *Prince Rupert*, that gallant ſoldier of merry England.

109.

Mrs. Sickles, of New York, *Little Red Riding Hood.*

Mrs. Hughes, of Virginia, was a bewitching *Little Red Riding Hood*, dreſſed faultleſsly, and with great taſte.

110.

Mrs. Major Emory, a *Quakeress.* So much of heart and mind, mingled in each glance of her eye, that the enthuſiaſm of Lauzun and his comrades for the Newport belles of a former day was at once explained.

111.

Mrs. Senator Clay, as *Mrs. Partington*, with knitting in hand, ſnuff-box in pocket, and Ike, the inevitable, by her ſide, acted out her difficult character ſo as, perhaps, to win the unanimous verdict that her perſonation of the loquacious *mal apropos* dame was the leading feature of the evening's entertainment. Go where ſhe would through the ſpacious halls, a crowd of eager liſteners followed her footſteps, drinking in her inſtant repartees, which were really ſuperior in wit and appoſiteneſs, and, indeed, in the vein of the famous dame's cacoëthes, even to the original contributions of Shillaber to the nonſenſical literature of the day; though Shillaber, as all know, made Mrs. Partington the hiſtorical and national character she now deſervedly is.

112.

Lord Napier, was, for the nonce, the Miniſter of George III., firſt sent to this country after the cloſe of our war of Revolution. His coſtume was faultleſsly arranged. From the powdered wig dreſſed as though by the hand of a friſſeur of that age (when that functionary at an European Court was of even more importance to the happineſs of his ſubjects, than even the chief artiſte de cuiſine, is now,) down to the unexceptionable "water" of the diamonds in his ſhoe-buckles, he looked, indeed, the diplomatic courtier of a century ago.

"A cold, good, honorable man,
Proud of his birth, and proud of everything—
A goodly ſpirit for a ſtate divan,
A figure fit to walk before a king."

113.

Lady Napier, as Mrs. Hammond, *wife* of the firſt Britiſh Miniſter to America, appeared to great advantage, as ſhe ever does.

114 and 115.

Sir W. Gore Ouseley, *Knight of the Bath*, wore his official coſtume—and a handſome one it is, becoming him well.

"Tall, portly, form'd to lead the courtly van
On birthdays, glorious with a ſtar and ſtring,
The very model of a chamberlain,
And ſuch I mean to make him when I reign."

Lady Ouseley, *née* Miſs Van Neſs, as a *French Marchioness*, would have been an ornament to the Court of Verſailles.

116.

Miss Withers, *Titania.*

117.

Hon. L. M. Keitt, of South Carolina, was *Charles XII.*

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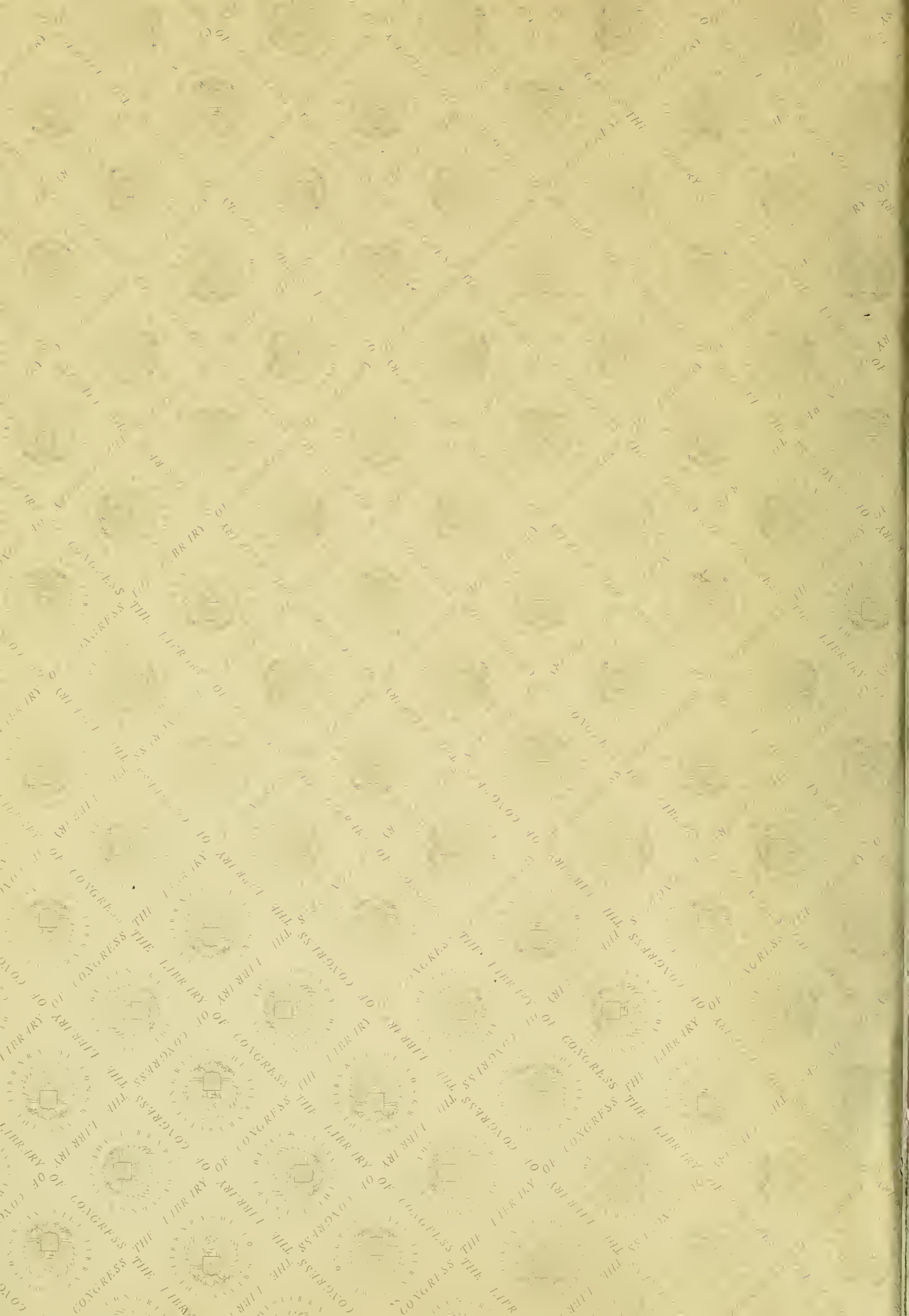

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